(b) if so, their grievances, still unsolved; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to set up a Special Pay Commission for the defence services to remove all disparties in pay and allowances of the three defence services?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No instance of reservation among Naval and Air Force officers on the recent pay hike has been brought to Government's notice.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Strategy to Counter Pakistan along LoC

3963. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD :

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether army has devised any new strategy to counter Pakistan on Line of Control in J & K;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other effective steps proposed to ensure Pak do not occupy dominating heights or positions along the LoC;

(d) whether the strategy takes into account the latest aggressive posture adopted by Pakistan's Military Ruler on infiltration across the LoC; and

(e) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (e) Continuous efforts are made to constantly evolve and improve the strategy to counter Pakistan on the LoC in J & K.

Appropriate measures have been undertaken to frustrate any attempt at misadventure along the LoC. Relentless operations are carried out against the terrorists in the hinterland.

Violation of LoC By Pakistan

3964. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the confrontation is continuing on the border after the Kargil War;

(b) if so, how many violations of the LoC took place after Kargil War and how many casualities occurred on Indian side;

(c) whether Government have taken up the violations of LoC with the Pakistan Government; and

(d) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Exchange of firing along the Indo-Pak border in J & K is a regular phenomenon. The motive behind Pak unprovoked firing is well-known.

(b) After the Kargil conflict till 20th April, 2000 there have been 11 incidents of Pak attempts to capture our posts along the Actual Ground Position Line and the Line of Control, resulting in the estimated 50 fatal casualties on Pak side. On our side, there have been casualties of 19 killed, 1 wounded and 2 missing.

(c) Government have repeatedly called upon Pakistan to maintain sanctity of Line of Control which is rooted in the Simla Agreement, the corner stone for India-Pakistan relations.

(d) It has been the usual posture of Pakistan to deny the unprovoked firings coming from that side.

Defence Co-operation with Foreign Countries

3965. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many foreign defence delegations visited India during 1999-2000 till date, and whether any Indian defence delegation also went abroad on reciprocal basis;

(b) whether any agreements were signed by India with foreign countries during the above period for wide ranging defence cooperation including training of personnel and exchange of latest-technology, purchasing of defence equipment/information for mutual benefits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise and year-wise till date ?